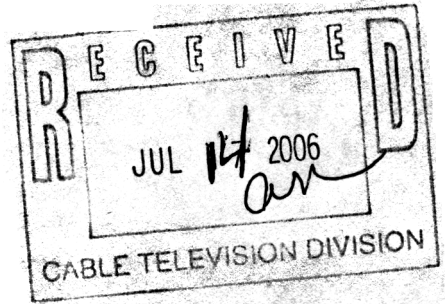


Mary F. Rafferty
709 West Roxbury Parkway
Boston, Massachusetts 02132

July 12, 2006

Ms. Alicia Mathews
Director, Cable Division
Department of Telecom & Energy
South Station
Boston, MA



Dear Ms. Mathews:

I am writing to express support for Verizon's proposal to streamline the process for companies to enter the video market. Prior to my recent retirement from Verizon, I had the opportunity to work with consumers and communities engaged in the franchising process.

Consumers are extremely supportive of having a new provider in town. They recognize the benefits that this infrastructure and competition bring to their communities. The towns also recognize the benefits of competition but often have other priorities that delay their efforts to move the process along.

I believe a prescribed timeframe for completing the process would benefit all parties by focusing energy and attention on reaching a fair video license agreement. Residents would experience lower prices and improved service more quickly, towns could better control the resources they expend on the process, and Verizon would add an important service component to its product offering.

We should not let Massachusetts communities be at a disadvantage to other parts of the country where public policy stimulates investment in state-of-the-art infrastructure.

I strongly urge you to approve the proposal to streamline the current licensing process. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

cc: DTE Commissioners